693 course, exceptions and in Lahej, for example, the electoral college is composed not only of the heads of the branches of the Ruling family, but also of the Sheikhs of the principal tribes and the senior Qadhi, but generally speaking it is the family who make the choice for tribal approval.

In Dhala on this occasion the new Amir was selected after a bitter disagreement between two of his uncles, and an attempt on the part of the family council to avoid having to make a decision by asking for direct British administration. The troublesome uncle, having failed to ensure that a large proportion of the State revenue would in future be devoted solely to the support of himself and his family, abstained from voting in the council meeting and fled that same night to the Yemen with his close relations, and was warmly welcomed there. The new Amir was very upset at what he considered to be a serious affront to his dignity, but, personally, I had no doubt that he was well rid of a particularly useless and disagreeable bunch of Qtis-ridden wasters.

AULAKIS

636 In the winter of 1951-52, the Aulaki adventure was making
131 good progress. The Aulakis are a virile and warlike clan whose
184 territory runs north and south along the western side of the administrative dividing line between the western and eastern sections of the Protectorate and are themselves divided into three States, the Lower Aulaki Sultanate in the south on the sea coast, then the Sheikhdom, an area of fierce barren hills with steep and narrow valleys, and in the north the more open table-lands of the Upper Aulaki Sultanate.

636 At this point a word of explanation is necessary about the administrative dividing line to which I have referred. This line came into being purely as an administrative convenience and should, in fact, never have been incorporated on the maps of the area because the Aden Protectorate is one indivisible whole. The reason why any administrative line became necessary was that at the period of history when it was first drawn in pencil on an old map, probably by the Governor, the British

Travels in the Protectorate

Agent in the west of the Protectorate was a person of very determined character who reacted strongly to any encroachment of what he considered to be his kingdom, while the distinguished administrator at that time in the Hadhramaut was equally strong minded and had acquisitive tendencies; so in order to prevent a major war between these two distinguished officers a line had to be drawn, and they had to be instructed to keep inside their boundaries.

Many years ago the Aulaki had burst out of their hilly fastnesses and spread east and west through the length and breadth of the Protectorate, until their influence ran right up to the Yemen borders and they held even Lahej to ransom, while away in the east the Qaiti Sultanate suffered from their depredations. In the earliest days of South-west Arabia before the Christian era, it is probable that the Aulakis were the most powerful race that that country had ever produced, but like many other great nations they gradually declined in influence and authority until today they have little but their barren hills and their pride, the latter bolstered up by nebulous claims to tribute from their neighbours, which they can no longer enforce. Their pride was their greatest asset and at the same time their worst enemy: in their powerful and prosperous days it had driven them forward and in the days of their weakness it had torn them apart until the great Aulaki Confederation had dissolved into a maze of blood feuds which had laid waste the land upon which they had come to depend, and thereby impoverished the people.

The old Sheikh who ruled the Sheikhdom had come into treaty relations with us in 1904 and he was still alive, but he was too old to manage the affairs of his country, and his youngest son Abdullah had been chosen as Regent to rule in his name. Abdullah was a pleasant person with none of the strong characteristics of his brothers and he had been selected by the family council and the tribal leaders for that very reason. His eldest brother was too die-hard to be acceptable to the family or the tribes; the bedouin brother was not interested, and his worst brother preferred to be the power behind the throne rather than the occupant of the throne itself. The

2: Hickinbotham G-4, 5 (ca. 1931-ca. 1957)
1958 MM1 Aden MM1

The brothers all expected to be able to guide Abdullah in what they considered to be the right direction, and in consequence Abdullah was often the recipient of contrary advice and in a dilemma, but there was one thing about which he had no doubt and that was his dislike of the interminable blood feuds. He sought our help to put an end to them and at the same time to set up an administration. His request was granted and a motorable track was driven through the mountains to Yeshbum and Said, the two towns of the Sheikhdom, opening up the country to the outside world. Truces were made between the tribal septs which were guaranteed by Abdullah as Regent for his father and by Government, and in a short while peace came to a land which for so long had known nothing but strife.

636 628 The negotiating of the truces was, in this case, not particularly difficult because everyone was tired of fighting and only too anxious to come to an agreement, provided they could do so with honour. The authority of the Sheikh, backed by the power of the Government, was an overwhelming reason for suspending the feuds, and what was essential, a reason that could be seen by their neighbours and would be generally acknowledged as adequate. It is not only in Surbiton that the opinion of the neighbours is of importance.

Such truces are normally made for a few months in the first instance and then renewed for longer and longer periods until no-one troubles to remember when they lapse. When this stage is reached it does not matter whether they are in force or not because the reason for the truce has been forgotten and peace and good relations have become the accustomed way of life. Sometimes feuds are ended definitely during a truce by the casting up of the accounts of the dead and wounded on either side during the period of the feud and the striking of a balance; the difference being assessed at so much a head in accordance with local custom and a payment of "blood money", as it is called, being made from the debtors' side to the creditors' side.

634 648 Strenuous efforts were made to produce an administration and eventually one began to take shape, but it was painfully slow and the whole project very nearly had to be abandoned. The real trouble here was lack of money. It generally is. Money

2: Hickinbotham G-4, 5 (ca. 1931-ca. 1957)
1958 MM1 Aden MM1

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was required not only to produce the buildings to house the administrative staff and to pay for the staff and to build roads and open schools and increase the number of dispensaries, but also to provide a stipend for the Ruler and to placate tiresome relatives and soothe, temporarily, until the administration had gained strength, troublesome tribesmen who looked with some suspicion on the innovation and had a constitutional antipathy to the payment of taxes and attendance in court. There had been too little money for too long, but in the end the need, the essential need, for financial assistance was accepted by Her Majesty's Government and this embryonic administration, together with others in the Protectorate in like circumstances, received an annual grant which was just sufficient to enable the administrative machines to run without undue friction and to grow stronger.

To anyone who does not know the circumstances of the case it must seem short-sighted that no adequate provision was made, adequate financial provision, for this project before it was undertaken. In fact, as in every project, however small, estimates were prepared but unfortunately they proved, as they so often do these days, to be inadequate. Somebody obviously was seriously at fault and to a degree I suppose the blame should lie with myself, but some share of the blame can reasonably be transferred to London. The Treasury are the custodians of the United Kingdom's money, money which has been contributed through the Inland Revenue and other channels to finance the United Kingdom and, incidentally, the poorer Colonial territories. On the whole, they carry out their duty very well, but so tight on the purse strings have their fingers become that in some Colonial territories they have induced what I can only describe as a Treasury complex. The yard-stick against which demands and requests for funds have come to be measured in many Colonies is not the essential minimum financial requirement, but what it is thought that the Treasury can be persuaded to give. Two very different matters.

Fear that the cost, the full cost, of a scheme essential to the welfare of the Colony, if disclosed, will mean the immediate and total rejection of the scheme has induced more than one

2: Hickinbotham G-4, 5 (ca. 1931-ca. 1957)
1958 MMI Aden MMI

•636 648 administrator to understate the true requirement, more by wishful thinking than deliberately. The result is that too little is asked for, less is provided by the Treasury and the consequent mess costs much more to clear up than would have been the case if an adequate sum had been demanded and granted in the beginning. Sometimes I fear it is forgotten in the United Kingdom that there are able and honest people outside the corridors of Whitehall, who have the interests of the Nation at heart. More trust abroad would mean less frustration and loss of confidence and would not cost any more, in fact, there would be a saving.

636 646 To return to the Aulakis. When I visited the Sheikhdom for the first time I drove up from Aden through Dathina with its funny republican experiment, where the three major tribes had stopped killing each other and were trying to run their own affairs by means of an unwieldy council with a revolving President, who held office for one year. The Sheikh of each tribe in turn became the President of the Council and a harassed Political Officer was endeavouring, with not a very great degree of success, to keep the Council on the rails and to prevent the members from too much feathering of their own nests. It was obvious that there would have to be a return to a more practical, if less liberal form of Government in the near future.

000 The Political Officer for the Aulaki area drove the Land-Rover so that I had ample time to see the country through which we were passing. As we went eastward I was particularly interested to see how the new security was bringing people back to the long untilled lands. Fields were being cultivated and houses rebuilt. There were flocks on the hillsides and on several occasions wild-looking men with antiquated, but still lethal, weapons rushed down from a nearby hill feature and threw themselves in front of the car and brought it to a halt. Clad mainly in blue dye and scarcely adequate kilts, they crowded round the car and shook hands with the Political Officer and myself.

"Peace be with you," was their salutation.

"And to you peace," was our reply.

2: Hickinbotham G-4, 5 (ca. 1931-ca. 1957)
1958 MM1 Aden MM1

topical calypsos or, to use their own word, *zamils*, rhyming lines with a topical theme, part repeated by the chorus of tribesmen. It was the first time I had seen one of these tribal demonstrations, and I was thrilled as the blue kilted tribesmen, led by their Amir, moved in what seemed to be a tail-less snake of men, threw abreast, round and round, coiling and uncoiling while rifles were being fired in the air with a delightful disregard for the eventual destination of their contents among the surrounding hills.

The procession over, I walked up the Wadi with the Amir on one side and his eldest brother on the other, and as we passed a very modern-looking gun it commenced to fire my salute. It was some ten feet above us on the bank, and I inquired from where they had obtained the blank ammunition for the gun, for this was no black powder affair, and was not altogether surprised to learn that live ammunition was being used. I should like to have hastened my footsteps and got well clear before the next round, but that would have been very poorly thought of, so we continued our stately walk without haste or damage to anything, except our ear-drums.

The new administration made a good start, but that salute of guns had been heard in the Yemen, although nearly two years were to pass before the re-opening of an old family dispute split the ruling family and gave the Imam his opportunity. The Yemen took sides with money and gifts of rifles and ammunition, and once again shots whistled along the narrow streets of Said, and as the infection spread and the tribesmen became restive, Abdullah, the Amir, faced serious trouble. By the grace of God and the opportune visit to the Protectorate of the then Minister of State, Mr. Hopkinson, now Lord Colyton, the additional financial help we needed so badly was made available to the young and struggling administration. Much can be done with money in Arabia, even to the extent of starting and stopping wars, as Lawrence demonstrated in the Hedjaz.

A young Assistant Adviser came to the Aulakis at the same time (the designation "Political Officer" had been abolished, and "Assistant Adviser" introduced as being more truly

Aden

● 634 descriptive and therefore more suitable), who was one of themselves, being a grandson of the old Sheikh. Educated in Aden, Mohammed Farid had served as a Junior Assistant Adviser for some years, during which time with Alistair McIntosh's generous help, he learnt enough English to enable him to complete with outstanding success a one year Colonial Office Course at Oxford University. It was a magnificent effort. In his political work after returning from England, he was lucky to come under Hugh Boustead, the dynamic Resident in the Eastern Protectorate. Mohammed's task was extremely difficult, and it seemed scarcely fair to ask him to serve in his own country with family ties to distract him, but I felt that he and he alone would be capable of reuniting the Ruling family. I did not order him to go to Said, but asked him to do so, putting my difficulties before him quite frankly. He did not hesitate but agreed at once, realising that it was his duty to serve his country however much personal relationships might add to his difficulties. The younger generation have begun well.

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639 Having seen the Sheikhdom start on the right road, the next thing to do was to tackle the difficult problem of the Upper Aulaki Sultanate, whose Sultan Awd bin Saleh, was an eccentric person who seldom made a public appearance, preferring to spend his time in seclusion in his tumbled down house in Nisab, his capital. When he did appear in public the unusual spectacle, combined with the respect which his people had for him, resulted in a minor riot. Unfortunately he had been out of contact with Aden for some time, in fact, since the day in the middle thirties when he conceived the particularly silly idea that his son had been poisoned in the Civil Hospital. He was disinclined to answer letters, but resolute and tactful action by McIntosh resulted in contact being restored, and once that was done the restoration of confidence was only a matter of time.

A landing ground was made near Nisab and the elements of an administration were started. It was a particularly difficult task because the shortage of funds was acute. The Sultan was ill-provided with the wherewithal ..> finance even his own modest household, and it is my view that his eccentric be-

2: Nicholetham G-4, 5 (ca. 1931-ca. 1957)
1958 MMI Aden MMI

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horizon had its foundation in his poverty, which prevented him from entertaining in accordance with his social position. Once the financial problem was solved, the administration made remarkable progress and the Sultan, gaining confidence, became more co-operative and began to take an ever-increasing interest in his State, though I must confess he still remained rather unpredictable.

In 1956, accompanied by a host of tribesmen, he went four or five miles to the landing ground to welcome Lord Lloyd, at that time Parliamentary Under-Secretary of State for the Colonies, who was paying a visit to the Protectorate. I was astonished when our plane touched down to see him, and I must admit the old gentleman seemed almost equally surprised at finding himself out in the sunshine so far from home. We drove to Hisab, escorted by the Aden Protectorate Levies, across the wide plain in a cloud of dust, and avoiding the town, went straight to the Government Guard fort so that Lord Lloyd could talk to the Sultan in comparative privacy. It was only comparative, as the tribesmen packed the courtyard of the fort and were only, with difficulty, restrained from streaming up the stairs to the first floor in their anxiety to be close to their Ruler.

We talked in a small room overlooking the dry bed of the wadi, and "Rufus", as Lord Lloyd nicknamed the Sultan—he had dyed his beard a glorious red for the occasion—showed that eccentric though he might be, he was also a shrewd fellow. Our conversation over we went down into the courtyard, and such was the tribesmen's enthusiasm that Lloyd and I were swept aside as they surrounded the Sultan, and pouring through the main gate of the fort like water bursting from a breach in a dam, bore him off to his house in the town. Lloyd was, I think, slightly ruffled, but he recovered quickly and realised that it was not intentional rudeness, but over-enthusiasm, like a football crowd surrounding a popular player after the end of a successful Cup Final.

I met the Lower Aulaki Sultan for the first time in Aden, when he came with his uncle, the Regent, to pay his annual ceremonial call. I shall always remember the picture the small

2: Hickinbotham G-4, 5 (ca. 1931-ca. 1957)
1958 MM1 Aden MM1

smartly about and saluted and remained standing at attention until I held out my hand and then, in turn, they stepped forward and shook hands. ooo

"I'll take them along," I said, and they followed me downstairs into the car.

When we reached the school the Sultan jumped out and ran into the building, but to my surprise his companion remained in the car.

"Come on, get out," I said to him.

"He will be back in a minute," said the boy.

"I thought you wanted to come back to the school," I said.

"Only to borrow two rupees for tea, sir. It's a holiday today, Sir."

At that moment the Sultan rushed breathlessly out of the building and flung himself into the back of the Land-Rover.

"And now where do you want to go?" I asked.

"Back to the town, please, sir," answered the Sultan, and opening his hand in answer to a whispered inquiry from his companion displayed two rupees.

So back we had to go. My momentary irritation at having to retrace my steps quickly gave place to satisfaction at the change in the lad. I was being used as a taxi-driver, but I had brought it on myself.

I dropped them in the main street, and after shaking hands they saluted very smartly, turned about with the precision of Guardsmen, then relaxed and ran off like the normal boys they were in search of refreshment.

BEIHAN

Up in the north of the western part of the Protectorate lies the State of Beihan, to which I paid many visits generally by air, but on one occasion by Land-Rover, coming in from the north-east across the sand dunes on the fringe of the Rub'-al-Khali, after an unforgettable tour of the northern Hadhrami Bedouin Legion Posts. Beihan is the home of the clever, adventurous, dynamic and above all loyal Sharif Hussein who, having ceased to be Regent for his son the Sultan in the first

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2: Hickinbotham G-4, 5 (ca. 1931-ca. 1957)
1958 MM1 Aden MM1

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643 year of my term of office, has become the power behind the throne and manages his son and the State with skill and adroitness. His State borders the Yemen and the frontier is a continuous source of trouble with that country. The Sharif is no advocate of appeasement. He firmly believes that offence is the best defence, and he and his son have maintained their [643] position with our help against all comers. For some reason, as obscure to me as it is to the Oil Company who recently gave up their prospecting concession for the area, the Sharif and the Imam are convinced (it's the only point on which they don't differ sharply) that Beihan floats on oil and in consequence the Yemen has been more aggressive on the Beihan border than elsewhere and the struggle has been long and bitter between the Sharif and the neighbouring Yemeni Governors of Harib and Marib. The Imam would like to isolate Beihan from the rest of the Protectorate and has tried every trick in his extensive repertoire of deceptive magic, but the Sharif has so far more than held his own.

[643] In 1954 a Conference was held at Mukeiras in the Audhali Sultanate with the Yemen Governor of Beidha, the Qadhi Muhammed Abdullah Ash Shami, with the object of trying to settle some of the Beihan border disputes. The Sharif and Ash Shami had had many hard and bitter duels in the past and there was little love lost between them, though I have no doubt a certain degree of mutual respect had been created. The Sharif flew from Beihan in a Valetta aircraft of the Royal Air Force which made a bad landing at Mukeiras, and bouncing off the landing ground, came to rest, rather dilapidated, on a nearby hill. The accident was witnessed by Ash Shami and the British Adviser who, with some local notables, were awaiting the arrival of the Sharif. They were horrified when they saw the undercarriage disintegrate and the plane collapse on its belly, and with the rest of the reception committee, rushed across the landing ground to help the survivors out of the wreckage. The first person to emerge from the damaged plane was the Sharif himself; unhurried and dignified he stepped out of the door which he had forced open, paused to light a cigarette, oblivious of the serious fire risk, and strolled over to receive

2: Hickinbotham G-4, 5 (ca. 1931-ca. 1957)
1958 MMI Aden MMI

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Ash Shami's congratulations on his escape, to which he replied with his unexpectedly nice smile:

"You thought you had seen the last of me, didn't you? You are wrong again."

In 1956 when he was informed that we had taken the initiative and landed a force on Egyptian soil, he is reported to have said:

"Praise be to God, the old woman [Britannia] has woken up at last."

He has no love for Nasser and his poisonous radio broadcasts which have done so much harm. I am very glad I was not there to hear what he had to say when he learnt we had gone from Egyptian soil with the task we had set ourselves uncompleted. My sympathy is with those who carried the news to him; his forthrightness could be very embarrassing even when there was much less excuse for plain speaking. (648)

AUDHALI

Further to the west, and also on the borders of the Yemen, Sultan Saleh bin Hussein, the young Audhali Ruler, had consolidated his position to an extent which enabled him to remain undisturbed, though it was a severe personal shock to him as he trusted their Shaikh, when the Dammanis, a sub-section of the Audhalis, forcibly resisted, at the instigation of the Yemen, our attempt to link the Audhali capital, Loder, with Nisab by motor road. The Yemen feared these new communications which would do much to consolidate the Protectorate and which in some peculiar way they seemed to connect with the supposed oil resources of Beihan. Shots were fired and on a show of force by the Aden Protectorate Levies the Dammani rebels fled across the border to be rewarded, encouraged and sustained by the authorities at Beidha, which is only about thirteen miles from Makairas and which I have myself visited on more than one occasion. From the Yemen the rebels raided into their own country at night, returning to their base in the Yemen before dawn.

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Ever obedient to the referee's whistle we played the game

E. Birkinhead C-4, 5 (ca. 1931-ca. 1951)
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[facing p. 130]

2: Hickinbotham G-4, 5 (ca. 1931-ca. 1957)
1958 MMI Aden MMI

windows the ground dipping by. We stopped just in time and I expected to be told we would have to wait for a relief aircraft, but no, without more ado, we turned all the way back and tried again. This time no-one waved at anyone. The spectators were much too interested to see whether the plane succeeded in getting off on this second attempt to think of anything else, and we in the plane were similarly preoccupied with more exciting times we were more closely concerned. Nothing exciting happened, and half an hour later we landed safely in Aden. My luck had held to the end of my Service life. My thirty odd years in the wilder parts of the Middle East and in the more turbulent areas in Pakistan, have been strangely devoid of exciting adventure, so much so that I am often envious of the wonderful adventures which seem to befall some travellers in so many weeks, or indeed days.

LAHEJ

Down in the western corner of the Protectorate the Sultan of Lahej was drinking heavily and marrying with a frequency which bewildered the local Qadhi who got his registers in a muddle. Fadl had succeeded his father, His Highness Sultan Sir Abdul Karim bin Fadl, K.C.M.G., K.C.I.E., some three years before I became Governor, and for a time had devoted himself wholeheartedly to the affairs of his State. When he was about eighteen years of age his father had broken with tradition and named Fadl, his eldest son, as his heir, to the intense irritation of a collateral branch of the Ruling house who considered that their rights had thereby been infringed. There was a plot to murder the heir, and one afternoon Fadl came off the tennis court in Lahej all unsuspecting to speak to a petitioner who had at one time been in his service. As the lad approached, the petitioner drew a revolver and shot him through the left eye and in the groin. He was hurried to the hospital in Aden and later was taken to Newcastle, where thanks to the skill of Professor Gray-Turner he recovered from his wounds, outwardly little affected, but inwardly he had suffered a blow from which he never really recovered. He felt the loss of his

2: Birkbeck Coll. G.A. 5 (ca. 1931-ca. 1957)
1958 MM1 Aden MM1

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left eye terribly, and it impaired not only his actual physical vision, but what was much worse, his mental vision.

By 1931 he had ceased to take any real interest in his State, and had taken to drinking heavily, and my own efforts to persuade him to pull himself together were no more effective than those of my predecessor. He became more and more eccentric and when the wonderful liquor he was not responsible for his actions. The end came one wild night when, more than usually irritated by his relatives, he had two of them tied to stakes in his front garden and shot them himself from the flat roof of his house. I immediately called him to account, and on my learning that the night after the murders he had fled to the Yemen, Lahej was occupied by the Aden Protectorate Levies and the Government Guards, and I went out personally and supervised the formation of a Council of Regency to manage the affairs of the State until the Electoral College could be called together in a more reasonable atmosphere to decide on a successor.

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On his way to the Yemen, Fadl passed through the country of his inveterate enemy the Haushabi Sultan, and that gentleman never forgave himself for being fast asleep when the fugitive passed within a few feet of his door. Fadl found no refuge in the Yemen where his deeds had shocked even the Imam, a man whose treatment of some of his own relations had been drastic, though not altogether without reason, and he was forced to move on to Jeddah where I believe he still lives. I liked him and I shall always feel very sorry for him because he never really had much of a chance. With sympathetic treatment from his father and others in his youth, his character could have been strengthened, and he would then have made a good and able Ruler. Whatever may have been his faults, he retained the respect and the affection of his people to the end of his short reign, and even after he had gone they continued to speak well of him. He trusted them well and never subjected them to the fits of temper which his relations came to dread.

In due course the Electoral College met and Sultan Fadl was formally deposed and the Amir Ali, his young half-brother, was

2: Hickinbotham C-4, 5 (ca. 1931-ca. 1957)
1958 MMI Aden MMI

nominated to succeed him as Sultan. Thus there came to the head of affairs in the premier State a young man, well educated, much travelled and full of promise. During the time I was Governor a great deal of progress was made in Lahej by the new Sultan, who as His Highness Sir Ali bin Abdul Karim, K.B.E., has taken considerable interest in the political development of the area and the economic prosperity of his State. Lahej was the first of the States to introduce a Legislative Council and now it is one of the major cotton growing areas, being blessed with the only perennial river in the whole of the western part of the Protectorate.

LOWER YAFA

131 Beyond the rich agricultural lands of the northern part of the Abiyan plain the Lower Yafa State stretches far up into the mountains to the highlands of Upper Yafa, a country of wild and hardy mountaineers who are more independent and individualistic than any other of the Protectorate tribes. The Lowest Yafa State has two capitals, one in the lowland plains at Al Hasn and the other in the hills at Al Qara. This latter town is quite the most extraordinary one that I have seen anywhere in the world. It is built on the circular limestone cap of a very steep hill which looks like a truncated cone, and the town can be reached only by two very rough tracks, up which camels and donkeys can, with difficulty, make their way.

I was determined to visit Al Qara, partly out of sheer curiosity and partly because I was anxious to increase our influence in even the most remote areas of the Protectorate. Having obtained the willing agreement of the Sultan, the arrangements were made and my party, which consisted of the Director of Agriculture, the Director of the Protectorate Health Service, a Geologist who was making a survey of the Protectorate, a Political Officer or Assistant Adviser who was in charge of the expedition, and a personal friend, covered the first part of the journey by car from Aden along the Khormaksar beach and across the Abiyan plain to where the Bana river emerges from the hills. There we spent the night at a

396 lines of a military school where the discipline is strict and the
[292] boys are taught to be self-reliant. Dressed in their school
[541] uniform of blue smock, gathered at the waist with a red sash
and a white cotton head cloth held in place by a black cord,
these boys put on a physical training display on gala occasions
which would not disgrace the Royal Tournament at Earl's
Court.

643 The old Sultan, His Highness Sir Saleh bin Ghalib,
K.C.M.G., was a well-read and wise old gentleman whose
death in 1936 was a sad blow to his people and to his State.
[513] I have enjoyed his hospitality on more than one occasion and
listened with pleasure to his band which, under an Indian
Bandmaster, played Eastern and Western tunes with equal
facility. It was this band that played at Government House in
Aden when Her Majesty the Queen and His Royal Highness
Prince Philip, honoured me with their presence at lunch in
1954. His Highness was himself present on that occasion,
together with other representatives of the Protectorate and the
[523] Colony. In his own house after dinner it was the Sultan's
custom to entertain his guests with a cinema show which,
whether composed of commercial productions or of films he
had himself produced and photographed, was always entertain-
ing, even though the sound was rather overpowering: I could
never understand, since he was certainly not deaf, why he
always had the sound turned up to such a degree that one was
almost deafened. The Sultan loved anything to do with films
and knew more than most amateurs about the mechanism of
his cameras, projectors and tape recorders. It was in Mukalla
that I saw and heard Charlie Chaplin speaking Arabic; an
Arabic sound track having been added by the Sultan himself
to one of the old silent Chaplin films.

• 636 Politically the State was more advanced than most of the
643 Protectorate States and His Highness ruled with the aid of a
645 State Council, on which were not only the able Sudanese Chief
Minister and the astute Pakistani Finance Minister, but un-
official Arab members representing trading and other interests
642 in the State. Throughout the State, control and government
636 have been decentralised down from the Central Government

2: Hicksbotham G-4, 5 (ca. 1931-ca. 1957)
1958 MMI Aden MMI

in the capital through the Provincial Administrations to the Districts into which the provinces are divided. The Resident Adviser and his staff worked in the closest co-operation and accord with the Sultan and his officials with the emphasis very much on advice. The Resident Adviser believed passionately in letting people learn by actually doing the job and he discouraged his subordinates from doing too much themselves. Hugh Boustead's policy under his inspired guidance has had most gratifying results and a sound administrative structure has been built up from local material. He himself is the most energetic and inspiring person with whom I have ever served but, I confess, I did on occasion find him exhausting; always on the move and perpetually blowing a referee's whistle for some underling or other. All the servants had been allotted a definite number of blasts on the infernal instrument and came running when their number sounded. I found it most trying—it made me jump—and when I was staying with him he kindly put it away and was at a loss what to do when he wanted an orderly to take a message, or a servant to bring a glass of water. He drank pints and pints of water and worried perpetually about taking a chill, being followed wherever he went by an orderly with a selection of pullovers of varying hue, thickness and age. The slightest change in temperature resulted in one coming off or one going on, and sometimes he seemed to be forever dressing or undressing. All great people have some idiosyncrasy; it distresses me sometimes that I have never been able to detect one in myself.

This fad of Hugh's was extraordinary when you realise that he had taken part in an Everest expedition, had represented his country in the Olympic Games, had served in the Navy and in the Army, and was at one time a boxer of note and had endured incredible hardship in the Sudan and elsewhere during his very outstanding career. He had very firm ideas, and he was independent by nature—but who would not be with his background and experience—and I knew full well that I need not worry about the Eastern Protectorate while he was in command. The only time when we did not always hold identical views was towards the end of a tour with him, when his

themselves. Suzerainty over the small states of Arabia has changed frequently throughout history, and conflicting claims persist to this day. These claims are made even more troublesome by the fact that many of the desert borders of these countries have never been fully established, and are hardly more than theoretical lines on the map.

In spite of these manifold difficulties, Great Britain has succeeded in establishing and maintaining firm control over the southern and most of the eastern coastal region of the Peninsula, and in tying the various sheikhdoms and sultanates of that area fairly closely to the fabric of the Empire. On the basis of their legal relationship to Great Britain, the dependent states and territories in the Arabian Peninsula may be divided into three general categories: (a) British colonial territory (Aden Colony); (b) British protectorate (Aden Protectorate); and (c) semi-dependent states under British protection (the Persian Gulf states).

THE COLONY AND PROTECTORATE OF ADEN[1]

The Colony. The city of Aden and the surrounding territory were occupied by a British force in 1839. Upon its annexation in the same year, Aden was made part of the Bombay Presidency and remained in this status until 1932 when it was constituted a separate province. The reorganization of the government of India in 1935 brought about a further change in Aden's administrative position, for Article 288 of the Government of India Act of that year separated Aden from India and envisaged its reorganization as a Crown Colony subordinated to the Colonial Office in London. A Royal Order in Council was issued on September 28, 1936, which introduced what may be termed a new constitution for Aden.[2]

This constitution follows the usual lines of the fundamental laws for British Crown Colonies whereby only the basic legislation

[1] See in general Robert R. Robbins, "The Legal Status of Aden and the Aden Protectorates," *American Journal of International Law*, vol. 38 (1936), pp. 700–15. On Aden and the Persian Gulf States, see Fritz Bleicher, "Die rechtsverbindliche Stellung der Imperen Arabiens," *Zeitschrift fur offentliches Recht*, vol. 19 (1939), pp. 137–63.

[2] *Statutory Rules and Orders* (S. R. & O.), 1936, pp. 1–17.

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is enacted by the central authorities in London, day-to-day legislative needs being cared for by local legislation. The Crown, however, reserves for itself the right to legislate in all matters if it so desires. A conflict between imperial legislation and local legislation cannot arise because all local laws may be disallowed by the Crown. A 648 636

The Governor and Commander-in-Chief of the Colony and the Protectorate of Aden[3] is assisted in the exercise of his functions by a purely advisory Executive Council composed of high government officials. A Legislative Council, created by an Order in Council of November 23, 1946,[4] is composed of four ex officio members, four official members (i. e., persons employed by the Crown), and eight unofficial members (i. e. Aden residents, not employed by the Crown). The official as well as the unofficial members are appointed by the Governor. At the time the Legislative Council was set up, official British circles expressed the hope that at some future date it may contain elected unofficial members. A 636 II 642

The Council must give its consent to all legislation to be enacted for the Colony. Its members have the right to initiate legislation except in tax matters, and in matters which would involve the suspension of any or all of the Orders in Council enacted for Aden. The Governor presides over the Legislative Council and has an absolute veto over the measures it passes. The administrative direction of the affairs of the Colony is in the hands of a Civil Secretary responsible to the Governor. A 636

In spite of the transfer of administrative control over Aden from India and the India Office to the Colonial Office in 1937, the ties with India were not completely broken. A large amount of British Indian legislation which had been made applicable to Aden continued in force. The judicial organization, moreover, remained closely linked with India, since appeals from the Aden Supreme Court lay in the High Court in Bombay. In dealing with any legal case centered in Aden, British Indian substantive and procedural laws have, therefore, to be taken into account.

[3] All British colonial governors have the title Commander-in-Chief. This does not imply, however, any actual military command.

[4] S. R. & O., 1946 pp 1 ff. The London Times, January 7, 1947, p. [illegible], reported the first meeting of the Council.

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A The recent radical change in the position of India, however, will
● 636 undoubtedly necessitate a revision of the Aden system of appeals.

The city of Aden, the peninsula of Little Aden, the territory of Sheikh Othman, and the islands of Perim, Kuria Muria, and Kamaran, thus form a Crown Colony under direct British rule. This means that no native government whatsoever functions in the area. As a colony, Aden is part of the British national territory and its inhabitants are British subjects.

H The Protectorate. The hinterland of Aden was not organized by
648 the British into a colony, but into a Protectorate along colonial lines. Its present organization is based upon the Aden Protectorate Order in Council of March 18, 1937.[5] Under it the Governor of the Colony is at the same time Governor of the Protectorate, and the functions exercised in the Colony by the Civil Secretary are here exercised by a Political Secretary. The powers of the Executive and Legislative Councils do not extend to the Protectorate.

H The region is divided into two parts: the Western Protectorate
[643] and the Eastern Protectorate. With the exception of the Sultan
648 of Lahej the chiefs in the Western Protectorate generally possess
H only limited control over their subjects; the states in the Eastern
631 Protectorate are more fully organized. In contrast with the Colony, the native governmental institutions in the Protectorate were left intact, and the area is administered according to the
H principles of indirect rule. The Crown has reserved the right to
648 make laws for the peace, good order, and government of the Protectorate. At the same time the Governor may enact certain rules and orders and may especially extend to the Protectorate legisla-

[5] The British distinguish between two basic types of colonial administration: direct rule and indirect rule. The former means that the area is administered directly by British colonial officials without any native governmental machinery, as is the case in Aden Colony. The latter indicates the use of existing native institutions and the placing of many of the actual administrative functions in the hands of native governments under the control of British colonial officials.

(see footnote 6 on following page)